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16 MAY 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence**SUBJECT: Concept Paper on "Covert (Denied)
Limited Warfare"**

1. This memorandum is for the information of the DCI and for any further action that he considers appropriate.
2. The presentation to General Taylor's committee on 8 May 1961 on the subject of the Agency's paramilitary activities was built around a concept paper on covert limited warfare which had been developed within the DD/P in late 1958 and early 1959. Attached herewith for your consideration is a copy of the concept paper as well as a copy of a memorandum which I approved in June 1959, and which has served since then as general guidance for our continuing efforts to develop PM capabilities. It has occurred to me that you may consider that it would be useful to furnish copies of these two documents to the other members of General Taylor's committee.
3. I think it important to insure that all readers of the paper are aware of its date of approval, which was in early 1959, and prior to the WH/4 project. It, therefore, should not be read in terms of that single project alone. On the other hand, I think that you will agree that the concept paper foresaw many of the problem areas which inevitably arise in such a large paramilitary undertaking, and to a considerable degree forecast the capabilities that were required for the successful undertaking of such a project.
4. The covering memorandum specifically concerns itself with internal actions that should be taken by the Agency in order to be prepared to meet our responsibilities in such contingency situations, and significant progress has been made in implementing the recommendations contained therein. I recognize that there are still a number of deficiencies which must be corrected. It is the view of the drafters of these papers that these deficiencies are far outweighed by a lack of corresponding attention and improvement of the coordinating and policy making apparatus of the U. S. Government as a whole.

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5. If you agree that these two papers may be of interest and of value to the Committee in their deliberations, I will be glad to make additional copies available for General Taylor, Admiral Burke, and Mr. Kennedy.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

2 Attachments

cc: DDCI

CA/C/PMG/
(9 May 1961)

Distribution: Original + 1 - DCI w/atts

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